

THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA

V—Havana's Great Social Clubs.

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN.

Havana, Jan. 15.—Havana has the largest social clubs in the world. The Asturiano Club has 25,000 members, the Clerks' Club has 27,000 members, and the Gallego Club roster shows 24,000 names. There are many other smaller clubs, so that one-third of the population of Havana is represented in club membership. As only men are admitted to these clubs, and as two-thirds of the population must be women and children, it is apparent that almost every man in Havana is a club man. The club exercises a social influence in Havana among all classes of people which is not to be found in any other city.

The Clerks' Club is, perhaps, the most interesting organization. Its name in Spanish is "Asociación de Dependientes del Comercio de la Habana," which means literally the "association of dependents upon the commercial institutions of Havana." Every salesman in every shop in town, every waiter in a cafe, every cook, every cab driver, every bank president, every merchant, every politician in the city belongs to this club, or to one of the others.

Each member pays his dues of \$1.50 a month, in Spanish silver, which is about \$1.25 in American money. In return for that he has the use of a magnificent clubhouse with every facility for enjoyment. He has the privileges of the gymnasium, the baths, or the classes of instruction which are held in the club's schoolroom. He may send his children to the club's kindergarten, its primary school, its grammar school, and its high school. He may have his wife go to the club for expert instruction in sewing, cooking, and domestic science.

If he is unfortunate enough to become ill, he goes to the club hospital. There he has the attention of the best physicians in the city, he is cared for by graduate nurses, he is given the best of everything. If the surgeon is needed, there is the best of operating rooms, and the highest of surgical skill at his command.

The club member goes to the club dentist to have his teeth cared for, to the club oculist for eye treatment or for glasses. If he has tuberculosis he is sent to the specially erected club hospital for the tubercular patients. If he is stricken in the mind and becomes insane, he is not herded with the patients in the state hospital, but is cared for in the club's own private sanatorium for the insane.

And for all of this he pays \$1.50 a month in Spanish silver. Never any more. When he pays his dues he gets all these benefits, except that he must pay for the actual cost of the dentist and oculist. But the hospital and the services of the physician and surgeon are free. All the other things are free. The club dues comprehend and embrace all these things.

The benefits of such associations as these to the community are apparent. The conditions in Havana are such as to make them even more beneficial than they would be in an American city. These institutions are a development of the Spanish colonial days.

Four centuries of union have not amalgamated the peoples of the several ancient kingdoms of Spain. The Spanish immigrant to Cuba in the old days was loyal to his country, but he was more devoted to his particular corner of that country. Peculiarity in customs, ideals, even in language, caused him to seek his own people in this new land. The majority of immigrants to Cuba came either from the ancient province of Asturias or from the ancient kingdom of Galicia. The Asturians and the Galicians brought their own kind on this side of the Atlantic. The well-to-do attempted to aid the poverty-stricken. From small individual charities arose a concerted effort to help. The co-operative system was decided upon and the Asturiano Club and the Gallego Club were born. Their growth was slow, but with increasing membership came increasing income. The benefits of the system have been great.

In Havana the shopkeeper lives above or behind his shop. He keeps his place of business open nearly all the time. The co-operative system in Havana still remains in the hands of the Spaniards. Not Cubans, with Spanish language and customs, but Spaniards born in Spain who came here to make money and who intend to go back to Spain to die. These men have brought with them men from Spain. The apprentice clerk gets very little salary beyond his bare living. He always lives with the family of his employer, always eats with them, and always sleeps in the store, under or upon a counter. He works long hours, and he has few opportunities for recreation.

It was for these clerks that the Clerks' Club was organized in 1867 with some twenty members. The membership has grown to 27,000, and is still increasing. This club has entirely changed the life habits of these poor clerks, has opened to them opportunities for education and social advancement which they never had before. These men from Spain, the apprentice clerk gets very little salary beyond his bare living. He always lives with the family of his employer, always eats with them, and always sleeps in the store, under or upon a counter. He works long hours, and he has few opportunities for recreation.

The Asturiano Club probably has the finest hospital, although all three of the big club hospitals are excellent. These are built in sections, that is many small buildings, and the grounds about them are beautifully laid out and beautifully kept. There is not the slightest suggestion of the ugly barrenness which characterizes so many hospitals in the States. The hospital wards are villas, and the grounds are tropical gardens.

The Clerks' Club has the finest clubhouse. The Gallego Club, however, is building a \$1,000,000 palace which will be one of the finest clubhouses in the world. The Gallego Club owns the National Theater, which is situated on the Prado opposite Central Park, and the new clubhouse is being built on the adjoining lot. The Asturiano Club is on the opposite side of Central Park, and the Clerks' Club is a few blocks down the Prado toward the Malecon and the sea.

The Clerks' Club occupies almost a whole square. It cost, all things taken together, almost \$1,000,000. It is the most beautiful building in Havana to-day, both as to exterior and interior. Its grand stairways of marble, its vaulted ceilings, and its lavishly decorated rooms remind one of the Library of Congress in Washington. The building is new, it has been occupied less than two years, so that everything has the "new look."

In this club is the largest pool and billiard room in the world, having almost twice as many tables as its nearest rival, which is in New York. In the dining room there are 200 tables. In the drinking saloon there are seats for 1,500 at the cafe tables. There are fifty chess tables in another room. Everything is on the same grand scale as the list of members.

The ball room is the most magnificent on earth. In it 2,000 couples may dance at one time, and it is frequently crowded at the great carnival balls. This great room is lighted by scores of immense chandeliers of prism glass, and the electric current necessary to give it the full possible light effect, costs over \$1,000 a night. Never was there a real castle in Spain, and never a ball so splendid and so well lighted as this, and yet it was built and paid for, and is the property of, poor Spanish boys whose income to-day would be insufficient to support life in the United States.

In this great ball room the belles of Havana come to dance, for their fathers are members and officers of the club. Here come the clerk and his sweetheart, the cafe waiter and his sister. The rich and the poor, the high and the low—all mix in good club fellowship. It is absolutely representative of all conditions of social existence among the white people in Havana. The color line is drawn here, though not so narrowly as in the States, for a small amount of negro blood does not necessarily disqualify a man. It is literally a question of color, and unless the shade of the skin is too dark everybody is welcome to join the club and possess all its advantages for \$1.50 Spanish silver each month.

The Cubans have taken this co-operative club idea with them to Key West and Tampa, where they constitute the majority of the cigar-making population. The Asturiano Club has its branch in Tampa, and it is prospering. The Spaniards in the city are being cared for by graduate nurses, he is given the best of everything. If the surgeon is needed, there is the best of operating rooms, and the highest of surgical skill at his command.

Cubans have learned much from the Americans in the past ten years, but that does not mean they are not qualified to teach the Americans some things. This co-operative club work is one of the things Americans might study with profit. Certainly it is one of the most interesting features of the social life of Havana.

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To-morrow—The Republic of Cuba, VI—The Havana Cigar Business.

FROM WOMAN'S POINT OF VIEW

Seventeen is rather young for the juggling with masculine hearts, for however forward a girl of that age may be, she is not settled in her tastes. That is proved by the agility with which she changes her favored suitors. Think of the carelessness of the mother who permits attentions to a young girl of seventeen.

I have always been an advocate of the system of bringing up girls and boys together. It teaches the girls independence and tones down the high-and-some-times rough-spirits of the boys. But at the first dawn of the sentimental period girls need the protection of a third party, the moral protection of a parent or guardian. We may talk as loudly as we please of the uselessness of a chaperon in this country, because American girls are able to take care of themselves, but the fact remains that awful mistakes are being made all the time by the very girls whose ability to take care of themselves we laud to the skies.

Sentimental feelings are born under several conditions, moonlight and silence chiefly. They are wholly subdued by the presence of a watchful pair of eyes. There are popular homes, where young men's calls are enjoyed by the whole family, and this state of affairs does not interfere with serious attentions when the men are worth while. There are other homes where tired mothers and fathers go to bed and leave the duties of entertaining to young daughters. Calls are prolonged beyond reasonable hours, because there is no watchful eye, and little acts of familiarity, not possible in the presence of a third person, become common.

Believe me or not, I declare that the present generation of young people have rather loose ideas of morality, and laugh at the code of their parents' day. You can see it everywhere, even in such public places as railway coaches and steamboats. The little children, too young to go to school, talk about their sweethearts, pick them out and change them quite as frequently as do their older sisters and brothers, and at dusk each day I can look from my window and see girls in short dresses paired off with male companions and grouped under the shade of a tree or in dark alcoves.

No matter how sharp the air, those couples remain long enough to get chilled feet, even if their hearts are warm. Presumably these meetings are meant to be kept from watchful eyes at home or the leading would be done at the door or the gate. Something is wrong with their training, or they would feel some shame in being conspicuous. A wholesome mingling of the sexes should be encouraged at all ages, but as long as youths and maidens are allowed to reach the sentimental stage, unchecked, there will be tragedies and deep sorrow.

BETTY BRADEN.

Playgrounds the Topic.
Playgrounds will be the topic of the Monday Evening Club, which meets in the Young Men's Christian Association to-night. "The Commissioners' plans for playgrounds," is the subject of an address by Commissioner Macfarland. The playgrounds of Washington, by Dr. Henry S. Curtis, and "The relation of playgrounds to juvenile delinquency," by Judge William H. De Lacy.

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HAINS GOES TO BAYRIDGE.

Parents of the Acquitted Man Leave for Washington.

New York, Jan. 17.—Thornton Jenkins Hains, who has been acquitted of the murder of Annis, left his apartments at the Hotel Astor to-day. His brother, Maj. Hains, who is still staying at the hotel, said to-night that Thornton had returned to his home in Bayridge.

Maj. Hains said that his parents had also left the hotel for Washington, where Thornton Hains' daughter Mollie is now stopping. It was possible, said the major, that Thornton would soon leave for Washington himself; or if not, that his daughter would rejoin him in his home at Bayridge.

The same lawyers will be retained for the coming trial of Capt. Peter C. Hains, who is now in the Long Island City jail under indictment for the murder of Annis.

MAY TRY BROTHER OUTSIDE OF COURT

Work of Judge and Jury Goes to Lunacy Commission.

TESTING CAPT. HAINS' SANITY

Legal Anomaly Result of Plea of Temporary Insanity—District Attorney Will Not Ask Commission, but Defense Will Make Application—Jury Which Acquitted Thornton Not Disturbed by Criticism.

New York, Jan. 17.—A murder trial decided outside the courtroom is likely to be a novelty in New York criminal procedure which will be introduced by lawyers McIntyre and Shay in the conduct of their defense of Capt. Peter C. Hains, Jr., who is now under indictment for the shooting of William Annis.

This legal anomaly will be the result of the plea of temporary acute insanity, which has been mentioned by the lawyers as a defense for the alleged crime of their client.

The question of Capt. Hains' insanity and of its permanence can be decided most conveniently by a lunacy commission appointed before the trial and rendering its verdict to the trial judge. If the commission decides that Capt. Hains was insane when he shot Annis, but is not now, then, under the law, there will be nothing for the judge having jurisdiction to do but set him free.

Can Be Sent to Asylum.

If the commission decides that Capt. Hains was insane at the time of the shooting and is so now, there will be nothing for the trial judge to do but send him to an insane asylum, after he has been legally proved guilty of the act for which he is indicted. If the commission decides, however, that his insanity was temporary, the case will go before a jury for their verdict.

District Attorney De Witt has already announced that he will not apply for a commission in lunacy, but proceed to try Hains on the indictment charging murder in the first degree.

This puts it up to the defense, speaking for whom Lawyer Shay declared to-day that application for the appointment of the commission would be made.

Capt. Hains Cheerful.
Capt. Peter C. Hains spent a very quiet time in the Queens County Jail to-day. His only visitor was his brother, Maj. Hains, who remarked, as he came out: "Capt. Hains seems to be in better spirits than he has been for some time. He begins to realize now why Thornton was not with him, and I am sure the acquittal of Thornton will aid him by having very beneficial effect on him."

The jury who acquitted Thornton are not disturbed at all over the adverse criticism that their verdict has aroused. William Hill, the foreman, told to-day how they had arrived at their decision. He said that right at the outset the jury had eliminated the consideration of any degree of guilt other than that of murder in the first degree. Then, in going over the evidence each man found himself left with a reasonable doubt as to Hains' guilt, and this doubt the prosecution had not been able to remove.

HOSPITAL IS BURNED.
Patients Are Carried to Safety by Physicians and Nurses.
Bridgetown, Me., Jan. 17.—Fifteen patients, most of them women, were carried in safety from the Trull Hospital by physicians and nurses when that building was found to be on fire about 9 o'clock this forenoon.

Two years ago last March the hospital, which is a private institution, owned by Dr. J. F. Trull, caught fire. A delicate operation was being performed when the fire broke out, and the patients were protected by the fire department. The fire was extinguished, but the building was so badly damaged that it was necessary to move the patients to other quarters.

BRIDE SOON A WIDOW.
Philadelphia Contractor Weds His Nurse on His Deathbed.
Philadelphia, Jan. 17.—Between the hours of noon and 6 o'clock yesterday, Mrs. Gwendolyn Kugel, a divorcee, became a bride and a widow, at her home, at 342 North Twenty-first street.

She was married to Milton R. Wike, a prosperous steel contractor, whom she met about a year ago. He was taken shortly after their acquaintance, and from May on Mrs. Kugel was both his fiancée and his nurse. Day and night she was constantly by his bedside at the Jewish Hospital, and had a room adjoining him, in order that she might be near to comfort him.

Early yesterday morning Wike felt that he could not last throughout the day, and earnestly urged his fiancée that they be married at once, so that he might die happy in the thought that he had married the woman he loved. She agreed to have the ceremony performed.

The newly made bride, who is twenty-six years old, is almost prostrated with grief. "I had hoped," she said, "that I would eventually be able to recover. But I saw yesterday morning that Dr. Wike was nearing the end, and, of course, I was only too glad to obey his request. There were many who opposed our wedding, but why they were against it I cannot understand. I nursed him faithfully, and was glad to be able to comfort him. His position in life had nothing to do with the matter."

Too Much Luck.
London, Jan. 17.—The St. Ives fishing boat Maggie secured such an enormous haul of herring that she turned turtle and sank while making for the harbor. The crew of four were saved.

PLEA FOR JUSTICE BY FORMER QUEEN

Liliuokalani Makes a Final Appeal to Country.

DEPENDS ON THE PEOPLE

Former Ruler of Hawaiian Islands Tells Newspaper Men that Some Effort Should Be Made to Compel Congress to Compensate Her for the Crown Lands Taken from Her.

Liliuokalani, former Queen of the Hawaiian Islands, bent with age and her face seamed with lines of care, received, with a pitiful semblance of former days, when she wielded the royal scepter, a delegation of newspaper men yesterday afternoon, through whom she made her last appeal to the people of the United States and members of Congress for recompense for the loss of crown lands in her native islands.

Throughout the interview, the former Queen sat staring into space, inclining her head only when interrogated by Prince Cupid, her nephew, who, with George McClellan, her personal representative, acted as spokesman.

Received by Prince Cupid.

The callers were received by Prince Cupid, or, to give him his proper title, Prince Jonah Kūhoi Kalanianoʻe. When all had arrived, Queen Liliuokalani entered the room leaning on the arms of Princess Elizabeth Kahanu Kaʻauwai Kalanianoʻe, and Mr. McClellan. She was dressed in a Holoku dress, the native royal attire.

The gown, which hung straight from the shoulders, was of dark gray velvet, trimmed down the front and around the bodice with deep red velvet and lace. Her principal ornament was a large cameo pin, an heirloom in the family, made in Europe and presented to Kamehameha II, the former Queen, by the British consul.

After greeting the newspaper men, the former Queen lapsed into silence until shortly before the interview was at an end, when she said:

"I want nothing from the United States but justice, and, having failed to receive recognition from Congress, have decided to appeal to the people, through the press. If the people know the exact state of my claims they would have their representatives in Congress do something in the matter."

Has Aged Greatly.

Queen Liliuokalani is in her seventy-first year, and yesterday was the first time she has received newspaper men in ten years. Since being deprived of the Hawaiian throne in 1893, the Queen has aged greatly.

"I have come to Washington again in my declining years to make a personal appeal to Congress and the American people for some compensation for the Crown lands of Hawaii, of which I was deprived in 1893," said the former monarch. "I shall employ no attorneys to prosecute my claim, but shall leave it entirely to Prince Kalanianoʻe. The delegates from Hawaii, and to those members of Congress who believe that justice requires some action should be taken on my behalf."

The statements of the aged Queen were met with the warmest interest and showed nothing but mild respect. Facts and figures were quoted as the strongest argument for the granting of her claims. She said the Crown lands of Hawaii were the area of the general public lands of the kingdom, and were in trust for the reigning monarch and heirs. All the lands were divided into three groups by Kamehameha III. One part went to the monarch, another to the chiefs, and the third to the common people. The monarch became a trust fund or property for the personal use and benefit of the monarch and his successors to the throne.

Area of Crown Lands.

The statement of the former Queen was in part as follows:

"During my reign as Queen of Hawaii, the area of the Crown lands was about 1,000,000 acres; the present value of these lands is over \$12,000,000.

"The income from the lands at the time my government was overthrown was over \$50,000 per year. This sum went directly to the occupants of the throne, in addition to the privilege of appointing and removing the royal household.

"Three separate and valuable pieces of the Crown lands of Hawaii have been taken for the direct use of the Federal government. One tract, adjoining Honolulu harbor, is occupied by the Honolulu naval station, including the coaling yards and two wharves; another is the site of Camp Shafter, now equipped as a permanent military post. The third is just beyond the military post at Waiʻanae-uk, in the interior of Oahu.

"The portions of these lands directly held and used by the United States for military and naval purposes are alone worth \$10,000,000.

Furnished Armed Forces.
"This government did not take these lands from me directly for itself, but it did furnish the armed forces that enabled others to take them. A President of the United States, in a message to the Congress, based on carefully collected evidence, said:

"The lawful government of Hawaii was overthrown without the drawing of a sword or the firing of a shot by a process every step of which is directly traceable to the United States. The United States, acting through its diplomatic and naval representatives,

"And now the United States is holding these very lands, having taken them as a gift from the temporary government which it had enabled to seize them by aid of Federal forces.

"Hawaii has cost this nation nothing, and besides adding valuable lands to this nation by its acquisition, it has been a source of cash revenue. Although this government assumed \$4,000,000 of Hawaii's debt, the cash revenues to the Federal Treasury since annexation have amounted to over \$4,000,000.

and perhaps the loss of life, I do, under this protest, and impelled by said force, yield my authority until such time as the government of the United States shall under the action of its representatives and reinstate me in the authority which I claim as the constitutional sovereign of the Hawaiian Islands.

"The time has long passed when restoration by my throne could have been made. But, though fifteen years have passed, I have not given up hope that this government will yet make some reparation for my financial loss. I will be done with injury to no one and with honor to this nation, to which I now belong."

The former Queen is staying with her nephew, Prince Cupid, at 110 Massachusetts avenue northwest. She will remain in the city until Congress adjourns, when she will return to her native island. Her decision to appeal to the people was made, she said, because of former unsuccessful pleas presented before Congress.

It is her belief that public sentiment may be aroused to a point that will force Congress to pay the bill appropriating \$50,000 for her in lieu of the lost lands.

CHURCH FACTIONS WAGE A CONTEST

Continued from Page One.

Monday evening, February 1, declined to vote upon them as they were presented by the pastor at the morning service. They declared that there was no meeting called after the service; that no officer of the church presided. Therefore, the "yes" vote, which would carry the motion to accept the resignation practically without a dissenting vote.

Status of the Dispute.

As the case stands now, the resignations of Messrs. Heilmutter, Barclay, and Wurdemann have been accepted by the congregation at a church service. The council has called a meeting for Monday evening, February 1, to act upon the resignations, and Dr. Butler has called a meeting for February 9 to fill the vacancies caused by the resignations.

It is evident a hard fight for the control of the church is at hand. It is acknowledged the council is the governing authority. One faction may seek to prevent the other from holding its meeting by gaining physical control of the edifice.

The three councilmen, constituting a majority of the council, are prepared to insist upon their authority and upon the legality of their action, and the consequent illegality of Dr. Butler's.

This fact was admitted by one of the councilmen—that the resignations were accepted as a test of the sentiment in the congregation. The councilmen sincerely believe they have the majority with them. They will ignore the action taken by the congregation yesterday morning.

The questions involved in the controversy are, it is said, questions of church discipline and church rule. Certain points of disagreement have arisen between the pastor and the majority of the council. Two members of the council, A. D. Spangler and L. F. Randolph, are siding with Dr. Butler. It is said:

"It is wholly false that we have ever requested, or intimated, that Dr. Butler resign." said one of the councilmen last night. "We have only asked him to resign, and have sought to shield him from any open rupture. But he brought that upon himself. I can only say that the right of the congregation to govern itself must be established, or, rather, emphasized."

There Was No Complaint.
"No, there was no complaint made at all when Dr. Butler brought his son, Rev. C. H. Butler, to assist him at our church, after he had been requested to resign as pastor of the Keller Memorial Church on Capitol Hill. The latter has never been an official pastor of the church, or recognized by the council. His salary has been paid out of Dr. Butler's salary. The congregation has never appropriated money for it."

"The many points of the controversy will be brought out at the meeting we have called, and we feel sure our stand will be vindicated by the congregation."

"The machinations of the councilmen and their small following have been foiled," said one member who supports Dr. Butler. "They have visited much of the congregation in the effort to arouse sentiment against Dr. Butler. They failed miserably, and their resignations will, I hope, and a gloomy chapter of the church's history which has been dragging along for months."

An Envious Career.

Dr. Butler was born in Cumberland, Md. He was educated at the Gettysburg Theological Seminary, and as a youth of twenty-three came to Washington in 1869 to assume the pastorate of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Eleventh and H streets, the pulpit of which is now occupied by Rev. John T. Huddle. He remained with St. Paul's for twenty years, and in the progress of the civil war was appointed by President Lincoln as chaplain at several of the local hospitals. A devoted hand of Lutherans founded under his direction the present Luther Memorial Church in 1873. It was intended as a memorial to "freedom and peace—the emancipation of the slaves and the healing of old wounds after the civil war. It cost approximately \$100,000, and is today free of debt, with the exception of a \$5,000 mortgage incurred when the tower was burned four years ago. The congregation numbers nearly 400.

A celebration of Dr. Butler's sixtieth anniversary as a pastor in Washington will be held on Wednesday January 27, and of his eighty-third birthday anniversary in July.

VOTER GIVES AGE AS 104.

Does Not Know Birth Year, but Remembers Revolutionary War.
Philadelphia, Jan. 17.—Ancient, yet hale and hearty enough to brave the rigors of a severe snowstorm, a stooped, gray-haired negro entered the registration office at Twentieth and Carpenter streets last evening and registered as Capt. James E. Smith, 104 years old, of 2121 Montrose street.

And how do you know you are 104 years old?" asked William Miller, registrar.

"I was 106 years old last year, sir. I'm sure of that. I know I'm not less, I may be more."

"Do you know when you were born?"

"No, sir, but I'm 104 years old, sir. I remember the Revolutionary War. Don't you?"

Registrar Miller smilingly shook his head at the latter question, and under the circumstances, was compelled to register the captain as 104 years old, who, before he left said that he was born in Culpeper Court House, Va., and that his father was born in Cuba.

Roosevelt Boy and Girl.
Logansport, La., Jan. 17.—A negro child twenty-four hours old was christened Helen Taft Thornton here yesterday. The father, Azu Thornton, is a carpenter and a great admirer of both President Roosevelt and Mr. Taft. His first-born, now two years old, is named Theodore Roosevelt Thornton.

Uses Poison as Flavoring.
Wilkesbarre, Pa., Jan. 17.—Mistaking laudanum for a flavoring extract almost cost the life of Mrs. Ambrose Lane, of Larksville, last night. She did not detect it while eating, and some time later was found in a stupor. A physician worked over her several hours before she was out of danger.

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